



# CONSERVATION CONNECTIONS



Newsletter of the St. Louis Region Shooting Range & Outdoor Education Centers

The August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

&

The Jay Henges Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

Volume 1, Issue 5

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## Urban Agent

*By Dave Guntli, Conservation Agent, St. Charles County*

"What does a Conservation Agent in St. Louis do? How come you have more agents in an urban area as compared to a rural area where people hunt and fish?" These are questions that I and my fellow "urban" agents hear, often while speaking to hunter education classes.

First, consider some similarities. I started my career in St. Francois County—a rural county with a relatively high population of around 50,000 people. I've spent the last 17 years in St. Charles County, the fastest growing county in the state for several years. Both rural and urban areas have public areas that agents patrol for hunting, fishing, and area use violations. Agents in both areas are involved in hunter education, speaking to schools and other public groups, conducting radio shows, writing newspaper articles, and doing wildlife surveys for research.

Except for deer season and special areas such as trout parks, the big difference between rural and urban areas is people—many, many people in urban areas. Public areas in urban areas are heavily used, and for a variety of reasons. In addition to the normal hunting and fishing use, urban conservation areas are used legally for wildlife watching, dog training, target shooting, exercising, photography, wild edible collecting, and attending naturalist programs. Other not so legal uses include after-hour parties, carpool drop-offs, artifact hunting, grave robbing,

plant harvest, horseback and ATV riding, restricted area bicycle riding, drug use/exchanges, hot-air ballooning, paint-balling, radio-controlled cars, planes, and boats, and commercial photography. I'm sure I've missed a few uses on both sides. Rural conservation areas also



St. Charles County Agent Chuck Griffin (in sunglasses) draws upon his diversity as he conducts a basic canoe instruction class for Missouri's citizens on a Busch area lake

experience some of these uses, just not all of them. All of the uses above have occurred on urban conservation areas.

Another major difference between urban and rural agents involves animal nuisance complaints and road-killed deer. Both areas have nuisance complaints and road-killed deer. The difference is in how they are handled. Rural agents generally have more areas to dispose of dead deer and nuisance animals. The urban agent has some advantages in this area, because many deer are picked up by highway departments and many nuisance animals are handled by private companies. The problems occur when deer and other nuisance animals are in highly populated areas. Injured animals often need to be destroyed, but in urban areas, agents must usually catch the animal first. Try rescuing a deer from an empty in-ground swimming pool! Or try catching a black snake on the third floor deck of an apartment! And the aggressive nesting goose near the workplace doorway requires a large net and a careful approach.

Basically, the job is the same no matter where you're at. Enforce the wildlife laws on private property and all laws on Conservation-owned property, educate people, handle wildlife nuisance complaints, and other duties as prescribed. The difference is the volume of people and the lack of open space in the urban area. And oh yeah, the traffic!! Traffic jams sometimes stop an urban agent right in his tracks. Suddenly, an urban agent is no different than the average urban commuter!

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## Late Season Rabbit Hunting

By Bob Campbell, Henges Resource Assistant

Your hunting seasons for the 2004 year are coming to a close. If you want some late winter excitement, get your beagle out and run some rabbits.



Late winter rabbit hunting is a little different from early season rabbit hunting. First of all, small rabbits have already been eaten either by hunters or by predators. These rabbits have been chased by hunters, dogs, coyotes, fox, hawks, etc. Those remaining are the smarter ones. Secondly, late season rabbits will sit longer before running away, when they do decide to run they usually run faster and further. Your dog will usually have to work a little harder to run these animals.

One criteria of hunting late winter is dressing appropriately, clothing should be worn in layers, keeping you more comfortable and afield longer. While in the field wearing a hunter orange hat and vest provides high visibility as well as shooter location. Drinking plenty of water is also an important part of winter hunting due to the threat of dehydration for you and your dog. Take along some Chap Stick and sun block as well. This will help reduce cold weather damage to the skin (i.e. chapped lips, windburn, sunburn, etc.). Changing your socks is important to avoid moisture accumulation, which if prolonged can cause frostbite. I usually change them at lunchtime regardless of their condition.

Several days prior to a storm front rabbits become active in preparation for harsh weather. Concentrations of rabbits can be found in open fields gathering food; this provides the hunter with excellent hunting opportunities. Late winter rabbits are usually in thicker cover and don't dart out in the open unless really pushed hard by the dog. This is because rabbits will sit tighter, not wanting to leave the comforts of their warm spot. When hunting late winter rabbits, let the dog work, don't rush it.

Once the dog starts on a trail, pay close attention to the direction that the dog is running.

Remember rabbits run in some sort of a circle and are usually 20 yards or more ahead of your dog. They usually return to the approximate area the dog first jumped them. Once you harvest a rabbit do not retrieve it. Leaving the rabbit lay until dogs track up to it, helps further train the dog.

Before leaving the area, pick up your spent shell and field dress the rabbit. This gives you an opportunity to continue your hunt and comfortably transport your quarry.



Have fun, stay warm and most of all Be Safe!

## MDC Shooting Range Program - Reifsnider State Forest

By Tony Legg, Busch Outdoor Education Center Supervisor

How about visiting a beautiful woodland area that hosts trees 100-120 years old, ponds, hiking trails and a 100 yard shooting range? Reifsnider State Forest is located in central Warren County, about two miles southeast of Warrenton, and within an hour's drive of St. Louis. This 1,465 acre area is 90percent forested and was donated to the department in 1965 by the late Miss Bertha Reifsnider in memory of her parents, Frank and Emma Reifsnider



Just renovated in the fall of 2002, the Reifsnider shooting range has target lines at 25, 50, and 100 yards. It also features eight fixed concrete shooting benches with pivoting seats for bench shooting and a concrete firing line. The target lines are made of used conveyor belt and shooters are encouraged to bring their own paper targets that will stick to the belt or a staple gun to attach them with. The department does try to maintain a limited number of paper targets in a box at the range parking area for uses.

This area is set in a wonderful setting with plenty of family outdoor activities on the area for all, from hiking, to enjoying fishing, hunting, camping, outdoor photography, picnicking frogging, and other nature study and wildlife viewing. So the next time you want to visit a great forest area and maybe do a little family plinking, try the Reifsnider State Forest.

Remember to take care during your visit to be safe, courteous, remove trash, including brass and targets. A number of undesirable visitors have made their presence known with significant damage to the facility already. We need your help to keep this a place of for everyone to enjoy and visit. Please watch for vandalism and damage, shooting of property, signs, bulletin boards, littering, illegal use of automatic firearms or illegal possession of alcohol at the range and parking areas.

If you see someone improperly using the facilities or damaging it do not take matters in your own hands, contact the Warren office at (636) 456-3368, our hotline at (800) 227-1488, or any Conservation Office or Agent with information and you may be eligible for a cash reward.

Area hours are daily from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m. Directions to the facility from the St. Louis area are; take I-70 west to Hwy 47 at Warrenton, then south on Hwy 47. In Warrenton take a left on Hwy M to Schuetzen Ground Rd. Make a right on Schuetzen Ground Rd. for approx 3 miles and the entrance will be on your right. For more information on MDC ranges in the St. Louis Region and the state visit the MDC range web page at [www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/)

# August A. Busch Memorial Outdoor Education Center

To Register for Programs/Classes Call (636) 441-4554

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED

## FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

### How to Build a Purple Martin House

Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> 6pm

Participants will assemble/construct a Purple Martin House that has been pre-cut and take home with them along with the plans for building their own.



### Basic Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Optics

Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> 6pm

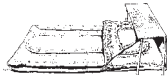
Does the store salesman and understanding the technical jargon that goes along with purchasing your rifle scope, binoculars, or spotting scope have your head spinning? Confused and not sure what you need for your activity? The Busch staff will be conducting a free program covering the basics of these optics and what you need to know to help with your decisions and use. This program is not only for the hunter, but birdwatchers, nature watchers, and others that wish to use optics in their activities.



### Cold Weather Camping Basics

Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 9am

Program will cover basic safety, techniques and equipment for camping in cold weather.



### Hunter Education Certification Course

Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 5:30 each night

Hunter Education Certification Course, start time 5:30pm each night, open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have adult attend with them, ages 15 and younger must bring birth certificate, ages 16 and older must have a valid ID. Must attend all three nights and pass test. Have problems making weekend courses, want to miss the crowds? This class is for you, held on three consecutive week nights for those with busy weekends and tight schedules.



### Trout Fishing Clinic

Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 9am

Program will cover the basics of fishing for Missouri trout and give the attendees an opportunity to catch a limit from the Busch lakes. Starts at Regional Office Classroom will move and end at one of the Busch Trout Stocked Lakes. Attendees must have necessary license or exemption, and trout stamp.



### How to Build a Blue Bird House

Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 6pm

Participants will assemble/construct a Bluebird house that has been pre-cut and take home with them along with the plans for building their own.



### Building a Wren or Chickadee Bird House

Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> 6pm

Participants will assemble/construct a Wren/Chickadee bird house that has been pre-cut and take home with them along with the plans for building their own.



### Introduction to Fly Fishing

Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup> 9am

This program is to cover an introductory level program on the sport of fly fishing. It is designed for the novice and beginning fly fisherman or those considering taking up the sport. Program will cover fly fishing for both trout and warm water fish species. This program will be presented in cooperation with the Ozark Fly Fisherman Organization. Open to all ages, youth under 15 need to be accompanied by an adult. A limited number of fly rods and reels are available for use free. Those with their own equipment are encouraged to bring it.



### How to Rough Antler Score

Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> 7pm

Attendees will learn the basics of how to rough score their whitetail deer antlers. This will also help in selecting deer for harvesting during deer seasons.



### Basic Gun Stock Refinishing

Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup> 6pm

Program will discuss the basics of gun stock refinishing, including prep work, techniques, materials, and other information.



*Shooters—hunters, looking for glasses that really define your target for the best shot? Too much is made out of lens color alone. While color can be important under certain light conditions, the key is elimination of glare. All targets reflect some light and create a certain amount of glaring. To really define your target, ensure your lenses are polarized. - TL*

## Range Rule to Remember....

By Jim Engel, Henges Range Officer

***"All firearms must be unloaded and the action locked open except when preparing to shoot on the firing line"***

This is an important rule in order to keep an accidental discharge from occurring. When calling range commands we try to give a 3, 2, and 1 minute "warning" before calling a time limit ceasefire. This should allow all shooters plenty of time to either not reload or to fire their muzzleloader or tubular magazine to empty.

If a firearm is placed in the rack with the action closed, no one knows for certain if it is unloaded. Even the shooter might forget if he or she unloaded it. There is a very clear danger that if it is loaded, any pressure from anything that causes the trigger to be pulled and/or the hammer to fall...I get chills just thinking about what could happen.

When the action is locked open, anyone can see if there are live rounds in the magazine or chamber area. Also with the action open, it will not fire. This is a no-brainer to avoid an accidental discharge and it will also have the side benefit of helping the barrel to cool off between shooting strings.

This rule, as all of our rules, is for everyone's safety and not intended to be a burden. THANK YOU for helping keep the ranges safe and fun for all.

### Normal February hours for shooting range operations are:

Open Fridays thru Tuesdays — 10am to 4pm

Closed Wednesdays & Thursdays (Office Open Only)  
State/Federal Holidays, & Special Events

### Range Location:

3500 Hwy D

Defiance, MO 63341



# August A. Busch Memorial Outdoor Education Center

To Register for Programs/Classes Call (636) 441-4554

**ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED**

## MARCH PROGRAMS

### Building a Squirrel Den Box

**Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 6pm**

Attendees will construct a wooden Squirrel Den Box that has been pre-cut and take home with them along with plans for building their own.



### NRA Basic Shotgun Certification

**Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> 6pm & Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> 8am**

Covers shotgun safety, types, parts, ammunition, patterning, fundamentals, shooting and much more. Actual live firing at patterning and clay targets will take place. Students must attend all portions and pass test for Certificate. 13 and up, under 15 must be accompanied by an adult. A non-refundable \$7 course fee (in the form of check or money order only to the "Missouri Conservation Heritage Fund") must be received within 14 days of registration or individual will be dropped from course and opening offered to those on our waiting list.



### Hunter Education Certification Course

**Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm**

The Missouri Hunter Education Student Course is a mandatory requirement for anyone born on or after January 1, 1967 to purchase a firearm hunting permit. Students must pass an exam to become certified. Topics included: Hunter Ethics and Responsibility, Firearms and Ammunition, Firearms Safety, Hunter and Conservation, First Aid and Survival, Hunter Skills, and Wildlife Identification.



### Basic Air Rifle

**Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 8pm & Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 8am**

The August A. Busch Conservation Shooting Range Staff will be conducting a Beginning Air Rifle Seminar on the differing models and characteristics. Youth under 13 must be accompanied by an adult during the training and recommended for all others. Classroom training is Friday night with shooting Saturday morning at 8am.



### Advanced Fly Fishing

**Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 9am**

Program is for those who have experience in fly fishing or have taken an introduction of beginning fly fishing program. Program is to be conducted by the Ozark Fly Fisherman's Association.



### Food Plots: How and What to Plant

**Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 6pm**

Wanting to start planting your property to improve wildlife habitat? Just interested in gaining additional knowledge? The basic/first step seminar is to help you on your way. Our experts will provide information, contacts, and literature for attendees.



### Crappie Fishing Seminar

**Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm**

Basic discussion with MDC professionals on how to crappie fish, techniques, equipment, lures, presentations, etc.



### Firearms Cleaning

**Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 7pm**

This program covers safety, basic parts, basic disassembly, cleaning equipment, etc. of Rifles, Shotguns, Black Powder, handguns. The Range will provide some firearms and cleaning equipment. Participants may bring their own firearm, cleaning equipment, and owner's manual to the program.



*"A well-placed arrow from a light poundage bow is vastly more effective than a poorly-placed shot fired from a heavy poundage bow."*

### Catfishing Clinic

**Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> 6pm**

We will discuss some of the catfishing basics and move to one of our lakes for fishing (weather permitting). Must have License if required.



### Turkey Blinds and Construction

**Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 9am**

This course will cover many of the commercial ground blinds used for turkey hunting, nature watching, and other pursuits. We will also cover and review construction techniques for homemade ground blinds from limbs, leaves, and other natural items.



### Historic Leather Working; Deer Skin Pouch

**Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 6pm**

Program will cover some of the basics of historic leather working and attendees will assemble a small deer leather treasure pouch to take home with them.



### Fly Tying

**Wednesdays, March 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> 6pm**

Members of the Ozark Fly Fisherman's Association will be conducting this two evening course on beginning fly tying. MDC will provide basic equipment or attendees may bring their own. Attendees must attend the first night to attend the second night.



### Sparrow Hawk/Screech Owl Nest Box Building

**Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 6pm**

Attendees will assemble their own nesting box that has been pre-cut and take home with them along with the plans for building their own.



### Fish Preparation & Deep Frying

**Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 6pm**

Filleting, skinning, de-scaling, breaded and battered, Missouri's fish can be prepared in all differing manner. Come and let us show you just a few of the ways to prepare your fresh fish for a great meal. We will also show how to use today's outdoor deep fryers and allow you to dine on some of Missouri's tastiest entrees.



### Predator Calling

**Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 1pm**

We cover the basics of mouth calls, electronic calls, decoys and other information to lure in the wariest of Missouri's predators.



### Barn Owl Nest Box Building

**Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> 6pm**

Attendees will assemble their own nesting box that has been pre-cut and take home with them along with the plans for building their own.



### Normal March hours for Busch Shooting Range operations are:

Open    Fridays thru Tuesdays — 10am to 4pm

Closed    Wednesdays & Thursdays (Office Open Only)  
              State/Federal Holidays, & Special Events

### Range Location:

3500 Hwy D  
Defiance, MO 63341

# Jay Henges Outdoor Education Center

To Register for Programs/Classes Call (636) 441-4554

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED

## FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

### Metallic Cartridge Reloading Handgun Ammunition Part I Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 8am - 10am

Learn the process, what equipment is needed, and materials needed to make your own handgun ammunition. This is a 2 hour basic program to get you started reloading handgun ammunition. Come join us!

### Woodworking for Wildlife

Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 11am - 2pm

This is a family orientated wood working for wildlife program. Come learn how to construct your families own bird feeder. Winter viewing of birds of Missouri can be a fun and educational activity for the whole family.



### Boy Scouts of America Shotgun Merit Badge

Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> 6pm - 9pm (lecture) Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 8am - 12pm

This program will be taught by NRA and Missouri Hunter Education certified instructors. Program includes a 3 hour lecture on firearms safety, firearms nomenclature, ammunition, and shooting fundamentals. The second day will include the live fire proficiency requirements. This program fills quick, schedule your troop early!



### Youth Rabbit Hunting Clinic

Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 6pm - 8pm (lecture) Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 8am - 1pm

This program curriculum is designed to introduce youths to the exciting sport of rabbit hunting. This is a 2 day program. Classroom instruction on firearms safety, firearm nomenclature, shooting fundamentals, shotgun patterning, rabbit habitat, and hunting techniques. A rabbit hunt will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> program day.



### National Rifle Association Training Counselors Workshop February 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, & 13<sup>th</sup>

8am - 5pm, Except on the 13<sup>th</sup> ends 1pm

This 4 day workshop is for a student candidate that possesses a solid background in firearms safety and shooting skills which were acquired through previous firearms training and/ or previous shooting experience. This program will teach how to TEACH and develop the knowledge, skills, and attitude to conduct NRA firearms training courses. Contact Ralph Redstone at (314)388-2245 to register.



### Susan's Wild Game Flautas Recipe

#### Ingredients:

2 cups shredded turkey, pheasant, quail, 1 rabbit or 2 squirrels, etc.  
10 oz can Ro\*Tel, Original Diced Tomatoes & Green Chilies  
12 - Corn Tortillas  
Salt, Pepper, Garlic (powder, minced, cloves, liquid which ever is preferred) enough to season to taste  
Tooth picks  
Deep fryer with oil

Take meat from wild game (not duck, I haven't tried it yet) Simmer until the meat falls from the bones, de-bone and pull apart to shred.

In pot with 2 cups of meat and remaining water, add salt, pepper, garlic to taste and one can of Ro\*Tel.

### How to Score White-tail Deer Antlers

Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> 6pm - 8pm

Learn the basics on how to score white-tail deer antlers. This is a non-certified course for Boone & Crockett or Pope & Young. This course will give you the basic knowledge to rough score your antlers.



### Winter Survival

Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup> 6pm - 8pm

In this course you will learn about the dangers of cold weather. We will discuss the way to dress in extreme cold weather. We will talk about the new and old methods of cold weather survival.



### Metallic Cartridge Reloading Handgun Ammunition Part II

Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup> 8am - 11am

This will be a 3 hour program were you will actually make your own handgun ammunition and will test fire the loads.

### Rabbit Trap Construction

Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup> 6pm - 9am

Every gardener and home owner understands the need to trap rabbits that are playing havoc with their prize vegetables and flower plantings. Come learn how to construct your very own rabbit box trap.



### Missouri Hunter Education Student Course

February 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> 9am - 4pm each day

The Missouri Hunter Education Student Course is a mandatory requirement for anyone born on or after January 1, 1967 to purchase a firearm hunting permit. Students must be at least 11 years old to be certified. Proof of age (birth certificate) will be necessary for those students 11 to 13 years old. Students must pass a written exam to become certified. This is a 2 day program. Do not wait until the Fall of 2005, attend a course early!



### Normal February hours for Henges Shooting Range operations are:

Open Wednesdays thru Sundays — 10am to 4pm

Closed Mondays & Tuesdays (Office Open Only)  
State/Federal Holidays, & Special Events

#### Range Location:

1100 Antire Rd.  
High Ridge, MO 63049

Simmer and stir until almost all of the liquid is cooked away.

Soften corn tortillas.

Place some of the meat mixture along the center of the tortilla.

Roll the tortilla (about 1/2 to 3/4 inch diameter) and place tooth pick through center.

Deep fry the rolled flautas.

Remove toothpicks and serve with Spanish rice and pinto beans or refried beans.

Great reheated in the microwave as a snack or for a quick lunch. Fantastic recipe for that left over turkey and chicken.

# Jay Henges Outdoor Education Center

To Register for Programs/Classes Call (636) 441-4554

**ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED**

## MARCH PROGRAMS

### National Rifle Association Rifle Instructor Course

Tuesdays, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

6:30pm - 9:30pm each night

Pre-course shooting proficiency is required to participate in this program. The program will teach you to TEACH the NRA Student Rifle Instructor Course. You will gain the confidence, skills, knowledge, and attitude to be a certified NRA Rifle Instructor. Contact Ralph Redstone, NRA Counselor at (314)388-2245 for registration.



### Beginning Backpacking

Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 6pm - 8pm

Learn the how to get started backpacking. Equipment, clothing, foot wear, water purification, and first aid will be discussed. Bring the whole family and start a new adventure in Missouri outdoors.



### How to Pattern Your Shotgun

Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> 10am - 12pm

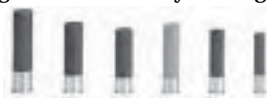
Learn how to assess ammunition and your firearm for specific wild game hunting with a shotgun. Ballistic data and firearm manufactures recommendation will be discussed. A live firing exercise will demonstrate how to pattern your shotgun and evaluate your target.



### Shotshell Reloading Part I

Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> 6pm - 8pm

This is a basic shotshell reloading program that will discuss components of a shotshell, safety precautions, resource information, and equipment needs. Will also demonstrate the process to reload shotgun shells.



### Missouri Hunter Education Student Course

Saturday & Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> 9am-4pm each day

The Missouri Hunter Education Student Course is a mandatory requirement for anyone born on or after January 1, 1967 to purchase a firearm hunting permit. Students must be at least 11 years old to be certified. Proof of age (birth certificate) will be necessary for those students 11 to 13 years old. Students must pass a written exam to become certified. This is a 2 day program. Do not wait until the Fall of 2005, attend a course early!



### Let's Make some Jerky

Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 7pm - 9:30pm

If it walks, flies, or swims, you can make jerky out of it. We will discuss making jerky from ground meat, meat strips, or chunks of meat. Learn to make jerky in an oven, dehydrator, a smoker, in the sun and other ways.



### Youth Turkey Hunting Clinic

Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 9am - 4pm

This youth turkey hunting clinic is sponsored the National Wild Turkey Federation's Big River Gobblers Chapter and the Missouri Conservation Department. Youths will learn firearms safety, turkey hunting defensive safety strategies, calling techniques, hunt set-ups, hunt strategies, turkey habitat, wildlife regulations, and the importance of shooting skills and patterning your shotgun. This program fills FAST, register early.



### Trapping Nuisance Wildlife

Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 6pm to 8pm

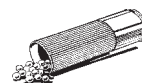
Learn how to trap nuisance wildlife and what basic equipment that is needed. Strategies will be discussed to minimize recurrence of wildlife and human conflicts.



### Shot Shell Reloading Part II

Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 6pm - 9pm

This program will discuss the components of a shot shell, reloading equipment options, safety precautions, technical reloading data resources, and reloading procedures. The class will get the hands on opportunity to load their own shot shells.



### "On the Edge" Missouri Bobwhite Quail Management

Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 6pm - 8pm

Presented by Missouri Conservation Department's Private Lands Services Conservationist. Learn how to manage your property for bobwhite quail. MDC technical services assistance and cost share programs will be discussed. Let's help to enhance the habitat of this majestic native game bird.



## FREE Firearm Safety Kits to Citizens

By Tony Legg, Busch Outdoor Education Center Supervisor

MDC Shooting Range & Outdoor Education Centers provide FREE Project ChildSafe Firearm Safety Kits to citizens. Firearms safety kits include a safety brochure that covers a variety of options for firearms storage and a free cable-style gun lock. Remember, nearly all firearms accidents in the home can be prevented simply by making sure that guns are kept unloaded and locked up, with ammunition secured in a separate location.

Project ChildSafe is a nationwide program whose purpose is to promote safe firearms handling and storage practices among all firearms owners through the distribution of key safety education messages and free gun locking devices. The Missouri Department of Conservation and the Missouri Conservation Federation actively support Project ChildSafe, a program of the National Shooting Sports Foundation

and funded by a grant from the Department of Justice, is a component of Project Safe Neighborhoods.

To receive your FREE Firearm Safety Kit just come by and visit the August A. Busch or Jay Henges Shooting Range & Outdoor Education Centers. There is no purchase or range usage requirements, just come by and ask for your free kit.

### Normal March hours for Henges Shooting Range operations are:

Open Wednesdays thru Sundays — 10am to 4pm

Closed Mondays & Tuesdays (Office Open Only)  
State/Federal Holidays, & Special Events

### Range Location:

1100 Antire Rd.  
High Ridge, MO 63049





# St. Louis Region Hunter Education Certification Courses

ALL COURSES ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED

The Missouri Hunter Education Certification Course is a mandatory requirement for anyone born on or after January 1, 1967 to purchase a firearm hunting permit or deer and turkey transportation tags. Many of our free youth managed hunts and clinics require both youth and adult to be certified.

Open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have an adult attend with them, ages 15 and younger must bring birth certificate, ages 16 and older must have a valid ID. Students must attend all sessions and pass an exam to become certified.

Topics included: hunter ethics and responsibility, firearms and ammunition, firearms safety, hunter preparation, first aid and survival, hunter skills, primitive hunting equipment, and wildlife conservation, management and identification.

Seating is limited, so reserve your place early and check on any special requirements, bringing of lunches, or fees needed for that location. All regional classes scheduled can be seen on the regional web site at: [www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis)

## **St. Louis County**

*Location:* Mehlville High School  
*Date:* February 1 thru March 1  
*Time:* 7pm to 9:30pm every Tuesday night  
*Registration#:* (314) 984-7777  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* Meramec Community College  
*Date:* February 5 - February 6  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (314) 984-7777  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* Crestview Middle School  
*Date:* February 8 thru March 8  
*Time:* 7pm to 9:30pm every Tuesday night  
*Registration#:* (314) 984-7777  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* Oakville High School  
*Date:* February 9 thru March 9  
*Time:* 7pm to 9:30pm every Wednesday night  
*Registration#:* (314) 984-7777  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* Forest Park Community College  
*Date:* February 12 - February 13  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (314) 644-9175

*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility  
*Location:* Jay Henges Outdoor Ed. Center  
*Date:* February 26 - February 27  
*Time:* 8am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (636) 441-4554

*Location:* Florissant Valley Community College  
*Date:* February 26 - February 27  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (314) 595-4444  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* Forest Park Community College  
*Date:* March 5 - March 6  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (314) 644-9175  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* Jay Henges Outdoor Ed. Center  
*Date:* March 12 - March 13  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (636) 441-4554

*Location:* Meramec Community College  
*Date:* March 12 - March 13  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (314) 984-7777  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* Florissant Valley Community College  
*Date:* March 19 - March 20  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (314) 595-4444  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* Columbia Bottom Conservation Area  
*Date:* April 2 - April 3  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (314) 877-6014

## **St. Charles County**

*Location:* August A. Busch Mem. CA  
*Date:* February 8 thru February 10  
*Time:* 5:30pm to 9:30pm each night  
*Registration#:* (636) 441-4554

*Location:* St. Peters Senior Center  
*Date:* February 26 - February 27  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (636) 477-6600 ext 400  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* St. Charles Community College  
*Date:* March 5 - March 6  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (636) 922-8233  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* St. Peters Senior Center  
*Date:* March 5 - March 6  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (636) 477-6600 ext 400  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* August A. Busch Mem. CA  
*Date:* March 8 thru March 10  
*Time:* 5:30pm to 9:30pm each night  
*Registration#:* (636) 441-4554

*Location:* August A. Busch Mem. CA  
*Date:* March 12 - March 13  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (636) 441-4554

*Location:* Lake St. Louis Fire House  
*Date:* March 12 - March 13  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (636) 625-7943  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

*Location:* St. Charles Community College  
*Date:* March 19 - March 20  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (636) 922-8233  
*Remarks:* \$5 fee by facility

## **Warren County**

*Location:* Warren County Lions Club  
*Date:* March 19 - March 20  
*Time:* 9am to 4pm each day  
*Registration#:* (636) 441-4554

## **Hunter Education Instructor Certification Courses**

*Location:* Forest Park, St. Louis  
*Date:* February 4 - February 5  
*Time:* Friday evening 6pm - 9pm and Saturday 9am - 4pm  
*Registration#:* Dennis Cooke at (314) 877-1309

*Location:* Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center  
*Date:* March 4 - March 5  
*Time:* Friday evening 6pm - 9pm and Saturday 9am - 4pm  
*Registration#:* Dennis Cooke at (314) 877-1309

*Location:* Union Missouri  
*Date:* March 12  
*Time:* All Day  
*Registration#:* Conrad Mallady at (573) 468-3335

*Turkey hunters now is the time to get out and scout for those birds. Late winter snows, cool sunny days with few leaves on the trees give you great opportunities to locate and study their patterns. - TL*



### ***Conservation Connections***

Missouri Department of Conservation  
2360 Hwy D  
St. Charles, MO 63304-2215  
[www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis)

Return Service Requested

PRSRT STD.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
JEFFERSON CITY MO  
PERMIT 274

## ***Look On The Web And Register For Our Up Coming Outdoor Programs Here Are Just A Few!***

[www.mdc.gov/areas/stlouis](http://www.mdc.gov/areas/stlouis)

[www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/busch](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/busch) or [www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges)

### ***April***

#### ***At Busch***

*3rd Jake Youth Turkey Hunting Clinic & Hunts  
16th Paraffin & Gel Candle Making Classes  
22nd & 23rd Women's Beginning Skeet*

#### ***At Henges***

*14th Worms, Fish love them "Basics of Worm Farming"  
20th Mushroom Hunting & Growing  
23rd Outdoor Cooking Catfish Fry*

### ***May***

#### ***At Henges***

*4th, 11th, 18th & 25th American Trap Series 1 thru 4  
20th & 21st Family Fishing Program  
27th & 28th Women's Handgun Course Level 1*

#### ***At Busch***

*5th & 7th Women's Basic Handgun  
15th Intro to Bank Fishing  
27th & 28th Youth Squirrel Clinic & Hunt*

### ***Outdoor Education Center Volunteers Wanted***

Do you like working with people of all ages? We are continually looking for individuals who enjoy sharing their time, love for the outdoors and dedication to conservation. If you are interested contact us at:

Busch (636) 300-1953 ext 251

Henges (636) 938-9548

**No MORE  
Trash!**